



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

April 19, 2013

Mr. John Lindeman  
Superintendent of Public Works  
City of Savanna  
333 Chicago Avenue  
Savanna, IL 61074

**Re: Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project Location 2 - Savanna**  
**Endangered Species Consultation Program**  
**Project Number(s): 1310385**  
**County: Carroll**

Dear Mr. Lineman:

The Department received a submission, via the Department's Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool (EcoCAT), regarding this project in Section 11 and 33, Township 24 North, Range 3 East for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

The project, which is located north of Walker Road, and lies between Iris Street and Penn Avenue, involves the lining of approximately 6,500 linear feet of deteriorated and cracked sanitary sewer main and the grouting of service laterals and point repairs where excess water is entering the sewer main.

The project site is in the vicinity of **Spring Lake – Carroll Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) Site** and it is east of a large record for the State-listed threatened **Least Bittern**, *Ixobrychus exilis*, and north of two State-listed endangered **Blanding's Turtle**, *Emydoidea blandingii*, records.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action is likely to have an adverse impact on the natural area and the Blanding's Turtle. To minimize potential impacts, the Department recommends the City of Savanna incorporate the following measures in its project authorization.

#### INAI Site

- Use special care to direct water away from high quality areas to the west, if any pumping is necessary.
- Over-seed exposed soil with a cover crop.
- Use Best Management Practices to prevent sedimentation outside work zones and monitor them diligently; silt fences, soil stabilization and runoff control measures should be incorporated throughout the entire construction site and during the entire construction period. These should be inspected on a daily basis to ensure they are working properly and keeping all siltation from the INAI site.

### Blanding's Turtles

1. Work crews and on-site personnel should be educated and informed about Blanding's Turtles before any work begins. Photos (both adult and juvenile) of the turtle should be distributed and a site management plan for responding to encounters with these turtles should be discussed at the preconstruction site meeting. If a turtle is encountered on site, inform crews to immediately stop all work in the area and contact the District Heritage Biologist, Michelle Simone (309/446-9181) - keeping in mind it is a criminal act to handle one.

Personnel on site should watch the turtle until the proper authority arrives to alleviate the situation, keeping at a respectable distance. If the turtle moves, crews should mark the spot they first saw the turtle and the last spot it was seen.

If a Blanding's Turtle is encountered, Incidental Take Authorization from the Department's Office of Resource Conservation may be needed, which would result in a Conservation Management Plan for the species.

2. Silt, exclusionary fencing should be installed and in place, from the end of March and remain until the end of October, to prevent turtles from entering the construction areas. Daily inspections by qualified personnel should occur for the first two weeks and then be maintained weekly throughout the project timeframe to ensure the exclusionary fencing has been properly installed and to check if any turtles are present on either side of the fence.
3. Trenches can trap turtles (and other reptiles & amphibians), therefore trenches and excavations should be routinely inspected throughout the day. Trenches should also be inspected before being backfilled, covered at the end of the work day, and returned to original grade when project is done.

Consultation on the part of the Department is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the City must notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

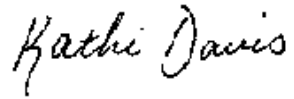
- Allow the action to proceed as originally planned;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures if not all will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resources review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected species are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this project review.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathi Davis". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Kathi Davis  
Division of Ecosystems and Environment  
Impact Assessment Section  
Office of Realty & Environmental Planning  
217-785-5500

enclosure

cc: Michelle Simone, IDNR/Region I/Natural Heritage  
Dan Pepin, Community Funding and Planning Services